

Contents

<i>Preface</i>	ix
<i>Acknowledgements</i>	xi
<i>Abbreviations</i>	xvii
Table of Treaties and Other Selected Legal Instruments and Documents	xxi
Table of Cases	xxxv
Chapter 1. Introduction	1
1.1 Aims and Scope	1
1.2 Why <i>Child</i> Civilians?	6
1.3 Terminology	7
1.4 Relevance of Two Concepts: Childhood and Children's Rights	10
1.4.1 'Children's Rights'	11
1.4.2 'Childhood'	13
1.4.3 The Significance of the Concepts of 'Childhood' and 'Children's Rights' in Relation to this Research	14
1.5 The Status of Children Generally	14
1.6 Summary of Introduction	18
Chapter 2. International Human Rights Treaty Law and Related Instruments Relevant to Child Civilians in Armed Conflict	19
2.1 Relevant Principles in General Human Rights Law	19
2.1.1 Applicability of General Human Rights Instruments to Children, and to Situations of Armed Conflict	21
2.1.2 General International Human Rights Instruments of Global Application	24
2.1.3 General Regional Human Rights Instruments	32
2.1.4 Recent Initiatives	37
2.1.5 Summary: General Global and Regional Human Rights Instruments and Initiatives	39
2.2 International Legal Instruments and Initiatives Exclusively Concerning Children	40
2.2.1 The 1924 Declaration of the Rights of the Child and the 1959 Declaration of the Rights of the Child	41
2.2.2 The 1989 Convention on the Rights of the Child	44
2.2.3 Additional International Instruments Exclusively Concerning Children	51
2.2.4 The 1990 World Summit for Children	53

2.3 Summary: Relevant Human Rights Instruments and Initiatives.....	55
Chapter 3. Treaty Law of Armed Conflict and Related Instruments: The Protection of Civilians, and Use of Chemical Weapons.....	56
3.1 Treaty Law of Armed Conflict and Related Instruments Regarding the Civilian Population in General	57
3.1.1 The Early Instruments: Pre-World War II	59
3.1.2 Post World War II: The 1949 GC IV and the 1977 GPs....	61
3.1.3 Other Instruments Applicable to Civilians Generally.....	68
3.2 Treaty Law and Related Instruments Regarding the Use of Chemical Weapons	70
3.3 Summary of Principles Concerning Civilians Generally in International Humanitarian Law	73
Chapter 4. Treaty Law of Armed Conflict and Related Instruments Specifically Regarding Child Civilians.....	74
4.1 Background.....	74
4.2 Relevant Treaty Provisions Regarding the Protection of Child Civilians.....	77
4.2.1 Provisions Concerning the Treatment of All Child Civilians in International Armed Conflict: 1949 GC IV and 1977 GP I	79
4.2.2 Provisions Concerning the Protection of Specific Categories of Child Civilians in International Armed Conflict: 1949 GC IV and 1977 GP I	89
4.2.3 Provisions Concerning the Treatment of Child Civilians in Non-International Armed Conflict: 1977 GP II	95
4.2.4 1980 Inhumane Weapons Convention	97
4.2.5 Article 38 of the 1989 CRC	98
4.3 The Duty to Respect and the Duty to Protect	107
4.4 Other International Initiatives Regarding the Protection of Child Civilians	108
4.4.1 UN General Assembly Resolution 3318 (XXIX).....	108
4.4.2 1994 'Draft-Declaration on the Rights of Children in Armed Conflict' (Declaration of Amsterdam)	109
4.5 Summary: The Law of Armed Conflict Concerning Child Civilians	111
Chapter 5. Customary Law.....	112
5.1 General Issues	112
5.1.1 Customary Law and Peremptory Norms (<i>Jus Cogens</i>)	113
5.1.2 Relationship Between Treaty and Custom	114
5.1.3 Inconsistent State Practice	115

5.2 Relevant Customary Norms	116
5.2.1 The Right Not to be Arbitrarily Deprived of Life	117
5.2.2 The Entitlement of Children to Special Treatment Generally	117
5.2.3 The Entitlement of Civilians to Protection in Situations of Armed Conflict	119
5.2.4 The Entitlement of Child Civilians to Special Treatment in Situations of Armed Conflict	123
5.3 Summary: Customary Law	127
Chapter 6. Monitoring, Implementation, and Enforcement of International Law Concerning Child Civilians	129
6.1 International Governmental Organisations	130
6.1.1 The Committee on the Rights of the Child	130
6.1.2 The UN and its Principal Organs	138
6.1.3 Other Bodies Operating Under UN Auspices	147
6.2 War Crimes Tribunals and Treaty Provision for Punishment of Grave Breaches	153
6.2.1 International War Crimes Tribunals	154
6.2.2 Treaty Provisions for the Punishment of Grave Breaches as Set Out Under the 1949 GCs and 1977 GP I	156
6.2.3 Comment: Procedures for Punishing War Crimes and/or Grave Breaches	158
6.3 Non-governmental Bodies: the ICRC and NGOs	159
6.3.1 The ICRC	159
6.3.2 NGOs	162
6.3.3 Comment: The ICRC and NGOs, particularly AI	167
6.4 Summary: Monitoring, Implementation, and Enforcement Mechanisms	168
Chapter 7. The Law in Practice: Three Conflicts	169
7.1 Applicable Law in the Three Conflicts	171
7.2 The Experiences of Children in the Three Conflicts, and Impact of the Applicable Law	173
7.2.1 The Experiences of Children in the 1987–8 Chemical Weapon Attacks	173
7.2.2 The Experiences of Children During the Occupation of Kuwait and the 1991 Gulf War	176
7.2.3 The Experiences of Children in the 1991 Kurdish (and Shia) Uprisings in Iraq, and Their Aftermath	183
7.2.4 Comment: The Experiences of Children in the Three Conflicts. Evidence of the Impact of the Relevant Law ...	188
7.3 United Nations Decisions and Debates Concerning The Three Conflicts. Impact of the Relevant Law	194

7.3.1 UN Decisions and Debates Concerning the 1987–8 Chemical Weapon Attacks.....	194
7.3.2 UN Decisions and Debates Regarding the Occupation of Kuwait and the 1991 Gulf War.....	196
7.3.3 UN Decisions and Debates Concerning the 1991 Uprising and its Aftermath	202
7.3.4 Comment: UN Debates and Decisions Concerning the Three Conflicts. Evidence of the Impact of the Relevant Law	203
7.4 Work of Certain UN-related Bodies in the Iraqi Conflicts: The Human Rights Committee and UNICEF	205
7.4.1 The Human Rights Committee	206
7.4.2 UNICEF	207
7.4.3 Comment: The Human Rights Committee and UNICEF. Evidence of the Impact of the Relevant Law	207
7.5 AI and the ICRC: Their Work in the Three Conflicts.....	208
7.5.1 AI.....	208
7.5.2 The ICRC.....	210
7.5.3 Comment: AI and the ICRC. Evidence of the Impact of the Relevant Law	211
7.6 Other Possible Indicators.....	212
7.7 Summary: The Law in Practice	212
Chapter 8. Conclusion	216
8.1 Summary	217
8.2 Core Points.....	219
8.3 Recommendations	221
8.3.1 Zones and the Concept of Prevention	222
8.3.2 Liaison Group	226
8.3.3 The Role of Children	227
8.3.4 Ombudsman for Children and/or Special Rapporteur on Children in Armed Conflict	228
8.3.5 Legislative Reform	229
8.3.6 Dissemination and Ratification	234
8.3.7 Existing Mechanisms.....	236
8.3.8 Preferred Options	243
8.4 Caveats	243
8.5 Final Comment.....	243
<i>Afterword</i>	245
<i>Bibliography</i>	255
<i>Index</i>	275